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MYSURU Thursday 26th March 2026
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Cheap car sale racket BUSTED

Mysuru District Police arrest 3, seize 8 cars worth Rs. 1.10 crore

Mysuru, Mar. 26 (MK&BCT)- The Mysuru District Police have busted a gang accused of cheating car buyers by promising luxury vehicles at unusually low prices.

Three people have been arrested and eight cars worth about Rs. 1.10 crore have been seized. Police suspect the involvement of a larger network and are investigating the case further.

Addressing a press conference at his office this morning, Mysuru Superintendent of Police Mallikarjun Baladandi said the case came to light following a complaint filed on Mar. 18 by C.S. Abhishek of Mysuru at Bannur Police Station.

Mysuru Superintendent of Police Mallikarjun Baladandi inspecting the seized cars at his office this morning along with other Police officers.

According to the complaint, Ruman Sharif of Mysuru befriended Abhishek through Facebook and claimed he could arrange luxury cars at discounted prices.

Along with associates Mujahid Pasha and Shahbuddin, he handed over an Audi A5 (HR-24-BA-5991) and a Volkswagen Polo (KA-19-ME-4591) to the complainant and collected Rs. 5.50 lakh without providing any documents for the vehicles.

Three arrested

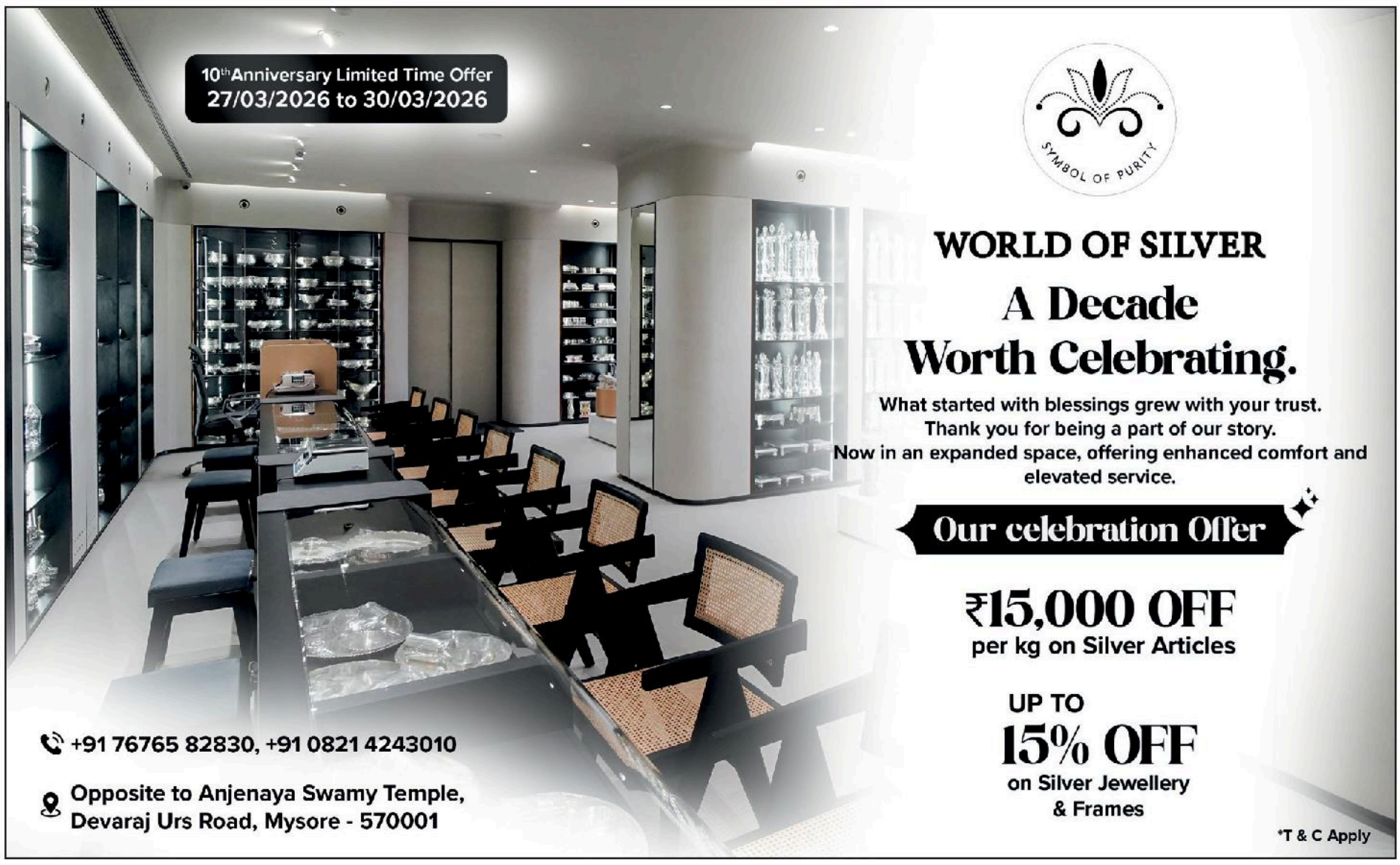
On Mar. 18, when Abhishek questioned the accused about the vehicle documents near Rangasamudra Gate in Bannur, they allegedly created a commotion and verbally abused him.

(See CAR on page 9)

Intl. Women's Day Special...

To commemorate International Women's Day and to celebrate women from different fields, *Star of Mysore* is publishing special articles during the month. Today *SOM* features P.V. Ushakumari, the first Woman Director of Mysore Airport, who speaks about challenges, women entering airport management, leadership and the future of aviation. **—Ed**

[Turn to page 6]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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Thursday 26th March 2026

Free hearing consultation held at Elder Citizens Council

Mysuru, Mar. 26- The Elder Citizens Council, Jayalakshmipuram, had arranged a free hearing test and free consultation by Dr. Radha Simhadri from Hearing Tinnitus & Implant Centre, Yadavagiri, Mysuru, recently.

Over 50 senior citizens availed of the facility of whom some were having hearing problem. After conducting hearing test, the doctor advised some to wear hearing aids and others to have a detailed consultation at their clinic.

Dr. Simhadri is trained at the University of Texas at Dallas in the area of Auditory Electrophysiology. She has practiced at US for over 25 years and in Australia for 15 years and has rich experience in the field of audiology.

She was assisted by Audiologist Kavya. Council President Dr. H.M. Nagaraju, inaugurating the health camp, said that similar camps would be held for other health problems of senior citizens by various doctors in the future and requested the citizens to take advantage of the facilities.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

FOOD AND THE MESSAGE: ***In our sacred literature, we find that there were people fortunate enough to serve food to God Himself, said Rama Kausalya in a lecture. Sabari waited patiently for Rama's arrival. But all that she gave Him were fruits that grew in the forest. She first tasted the fruits to ensure they were good enough for Rama. Imagine offering to the Lord food that had been tasted by a mortal! And yet this was exactly what Sabari did. Rama gladly ate what Sabari gave Him. Kuchela had studied with Krishna, but they had gone their separate ways after their years of study ended. Krishna became king and Kuchela was so poor that he could not provide for his large family. He decided to seek Krishna's help. But Krishna was now a king. How could he approach a king without taking some gift for the ruler? All that Kuchela had was a handful of rice flakes.***

Would a king accept such a humble offering? That was a natural misgiving Kuchela had. But Krishna asked for the rice flakes and ate them with relish. Krishna refused to partake of food offered by Duryodhana. But He was happy to eat in Vidura's place, because Vidura's offering was motivated by bhakti and not by pride. The Lord never forgets the dedication of His devotees.

After killing Ravana, Rama, on His return to Ayodhya, stopped over at sage Bharadwaja's ashram. He asked the sage to make all the trees on the road to Ayodhya bear fruit, even though it was not the season for the fruits. Bharadwaja granted Him His wish. Rama's request was for the sake of the monkeys, who had helped Him during the war against Ravana. The grateful monkeys ate the sweet fruits which had appeared on the trees, thanks to Rama's request to the sage. *—In The Hindu*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Man passes driving test after 9 years!

Tarnów: A resident of Tarnów in Poland got his fifteen minutes of fame for a rather unflattering reason — taking 139 tries in nine years to pass the theoretical driving test, a mandatory step to getting a driver's license.

Last week, the Małopolska Road Traffic Centre in the Polish city of Tarnów announced that a local man managed to pass the theoretical driving test after a whopping 139 attempts. He had been trying since 2017 and had spent €1,800 ($2,100) in exam fees. "This person did not give up taking the exam. It shows that the driving license is very important for him. Now he is waiting for the practical exam" Paweł Gurgul, director of the Tarnów testing centre," he said.

Pothole jolts brain-dead back into life

Pilibhit: A 50-year-old woman who had been declared brain-dead with no chance of recovery by doctors, miraculously regained consciousness when the ambulance carrying her hit a large pothole.

Vineeta Shukla, a judicial staffer from Pilibhit, in Uttar Pradesh, fainted on Feb. 22 while doing housework and was rushed to a local hospital where she was referred to a more advanced medical facility in Bareilly. Doctors, who performed tests, ultimately declared her brain-dead.

The woman's family decided to have her discharged and began making funeral preparations. On Feb. 24, as the ambulance was driving on the motorway, it hit a large pothole, causing a powerful jerk. Vineeta's husband noticed that she had begun breathing normally and her condition only improved from there.

The jolt is credited for shocking Vineeta back into consciousness, but many on social media are pointing out that this is a one-in-a-million anomaly, a freak occurrence that doesn't make up for the thousands of lives claimed by pothole-related accidents in India.

HEALTH CAPSULE

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Sahitya Chavadi on Mar. 29

Dr. Venkatachala Sastry

Mysuru, Mar. 26- As part of its Sahitya Chavadi programme, Kalasuruchi has organised 'Meru Smruti - Mahaniyarondigina Odanatada Nenapugalu' by noted researcher Dr. T.V. Venkatachala Sastry at Suruchi Rangamane in Kuvempunagar on Mar. 29 at 10.30 am.

Dr. T.V. Venkatachala Sastry (Togere Venkatasubba Shastri Venkatachala Sastry) is a veteran researcher, scholar and grammarian in the field of Kannada literature. He has published more than 120 works on various genres of Kannada literature such as syntax, grammar, lexicography, poetics, book editing, literary criticism, literary history, research, biography, etc., 16 works in co-authorship and co-editing and more than 30 works as Editor-in-Chief.

He has been awarded the Nadoja Honorary Award, the Kannada Sahitya Academy Honorary Award and many other awards for his service to Kannada literature.

It is noteworthy that Dr. T.V. Venkatachala Sastry, who has immense expertise in old Kannada literature, is credited to have filled the space of noted scholar D.L. Narasimhachar.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
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Last year's level **106.09 feet**	Last year's level **2,270.40 feet**	Last year's level **2,834.26 feet**
Yesterday's level **107.53 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,267.24 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,829.94 feet**
Today's Inflow **99 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **103 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **228 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **4,360 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,500 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***In 1957 V.K Krishna Menon set the record for the world's longest speech of 7 hours and 48 minutes, before the UN Security Council defending Kashmir.***
- ***When Dr. Rajendra Prasad was appointed the President of India, he only took 50% of his salary, claiming he did not require more than that. Towards the end of his 12-year tenure, he only took 25% of his salary. The salary of the President was Rs. 10,000 back then.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

*Q: **What do you call an English teacher with a social media addiction?***
*A: **Insta-grammar.***

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

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NEWS BRIEFS

Preliminary meetings at DC's Office

A preliminary meeting has been organised at the Deputy Commissioner's (DC) Office tomorrow (Mar. 27) at 11 am to discuss about Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram's 119th Birth Anniversary (Apr. 5) and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's 135th Birth Anniversary (Apr. 14) celebrations. The DC will preside over the meeting, according to a press release from Social Welfare Department Joint Director.

Another preliminary meeting will be held at the DC's Office on Mar. 30 at 4 pm to discuss Basava Jayanti (Apr. 20) celebrations. The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) will preside over the meeting, according to a press release from Kannada and Culture Department Assistant Director Dr. M.D. Sudarshan.

Sri Agnibanniraya Jayanti celebrations

The District Administration, Kannada & Culture Department, Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) and Sri Agnibanniraya Jayantotsava Samiti have jointly organised Sri Agnibanniraya Jayanti at Mini Theatre in Kalamandira premises on Mar. 28 at 11.30 am. District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa will inaugurate the event. Chamaraja MLA K. Harishgowda will preside. University Evening College Lecturer Dr. S.N. Ramesh will deliver a lecture on the occasion.

Wellness camp for women

As part of International Women's Day, the city's Government Ayurveda Medical College, New Sayyaji Rao Road, has organised a 2-day free wellness and health camp for women at its premises (Room No.11) on Apr. 7 and 8. The camp will be open from 10 am to 4 pm on both the days, according to a press release.

Calling Co-operative Bank members

The Mysore Merchants Co-operative Bank Ltd., Jaganmohan Palace Road in city, has asked its members to register or renew for Yeshasvini Health Scheme before Mar. 30. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2522759 or 2421077 or 2432938, according to a press release from the Bank.

Meditation attunement

A transformative meditation attunement has been organised at IMOSHA in Gokulam, Mysuru, on Mar. 28 from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. For details and registration, interested may contact Mob: 98451-08163, according to a press release.

Outer Ring Road Hosahundi Junction flyover

Public hearing turns chaotic, ends abruptly

Written objections invited from flyover supporters, opponents

Residents and villagers demanding a flyover on the Outer Ring Road at Devalapura Junction near Hosahundi. Picture right shows members of 'Parisarakkagi Naavu' and green activists pressing against the construction of the flyover.

Mysuru, Mar. 26 (MTY&BCT)- A public hearing convened to discuss a proposed flyover or a grade-separator at the Hosahundi-Devalapura junction on Outer Ring Road (National Highway 275-K) ended in chaos yesterday after heated exchanges between supporters and opponents of the project. The proposal involves felling 48 neem trees at the site.

The flyover is proposed between the busy Nanjangud Road and Uthanahalli Road Junction at Devalapura near Hosahundi, about a kilometre from Nanjangud Road Junction, identified as an accident-prone stretch.

The meeting, organised by the Forest Department, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and other agencies, was attended by villagers, residents and environmental activists.

While several participants strongly opposed the cutting of trees and urged the authorities to drop the project, others argued that the junction has witnessed frequent accidents and insisted that a flyover is necessary to prevent further loss of lives.

The repeated arguments and verbal clashes eventually forced officials to halt the meeting midway.

Authorities later announced that those wishing to express their views, either for or against the project, must submit their opinions in writing within a week, along with their address and a copy of their Aadhaar Card.

A 'Black Spot'

At the outset, B.T. Sridhar, Chief Engineer (Road Safety), Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, said the Devalapura junction has already been classified as a 'black spot' following many accidents and over 35 fatalities.

Sridhar said, the Government intends to construct a grade separator (flyover) at the junction purely in the public interest to prevent further tragedies. The loss suffered by families in accidents, particularly when young breadwinners die, is immeasurable, he added, urging residents to support the project.

The neem trees that have been marked for removal at the Devalapura Road Junction to make way for the construction of the grade separator.

Environmental concerns raised

Speaking on behalf of 'Parisarakkagi Naavu' environmental group, K. Parashuramegowda said that while the pain caused by accidents cannot be ignored, most crashes occur due to overspeeding, reckless driving and drunken driving rather than the absence of a flyover.

He opposed the proposal to cut 48 neem trees in the area and urged the authorities to explore alternatives. Installing traffic signals and speed breakers at the junction, he suggested, could help reduce accidents without harming the environment.

Officials blamed for poor road design

Contractor Hosahundi Nagaraj blamed officials for the current condition of the Ring Road. He alleged that the road alignment had been changed five or six times under political pressure.

According to him, the road near Hosahundi, close to the APMC yard, was eventually laid on a sharp curve after large boulders were encountered during excavation work. Because of this alignment, vehicles approaching from Devalapura cannot clearly see traffic moving along the Ring Road, leading to accidents.

Ravi Bale of 'Parisarakkagi Naavu' also opposed tree felling. He suggested that if the Ring Road's National Highway status were removed, authorities could install traffic signals and speed breakers at junctions.

Jayaram, Administrator of Bharat Cancer Hospital, claimed that cancer cases in Mysuru have increased by 11 percent since the Ring Road was constructed and warned that continued tree felling could worsen environmental and health problems.

Residents support flyover

However, several residents supported the project. Uthanahalli Shivanna said, a flyover is essential for villagers who regularly use the Devalapura Road.

With thousands of vehicles passing through the junction daily, crossing the Ring Road has become dangerous, especially for two-wheeler riders, he said, claiming that most residents favour the project.

HOPCOMS Director and Kumbrahalli Mutt's Mahadevu also backed the proposal, saying people are struggling to cross the busy Ring Road and innocent lives are being lost in accidents.

K.B. Kumar from Gudamadanahalli described the proposed grade separator as a boon for the surrounding villages. He said, fast-moving traffic makes it difficult for locals to cross safely.

Meeting called off

As arguments intensified, one group began chanting slogans in favour of the flyover while another raised slogans against it, creating confusion.

Officials eventually called off the hearing and announced that written submissions, along with address proof and Aadhaar copies, must be submitted within a week at the Forest Department Office.

The meeting was attended by ACF Ravindra, RFO Santosh Hoogar, NHAI Engineers Roopa and Mahesh, and Rural Police SI Surendra. Leaders Rayanahundi Ravi, former Taluk Panchayat President Manjula Manjunath, Sharana Sahitya Parishat President Devalapura L. Mahesh and 'Parisarakkagi Naavu' Members M. Gantaiah, Banu Prashanth & Banu Mohan, villagers from Hosahundi and surrounding areas were present.

Grade separator a permanent solution: Road Safety Engineer

B.T. Sridhar, Chief Engineer (Road Safety), Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, said that the Ring Road stretch identified as a black spot is about 30 metres wide and carries heavy traffic. Deploying Police round-the-clock or managing signals continuously is not practical, he said, adding that the resulting confusion has increased the risk of accidents.

As a permanent solution, the Government has proposed a grade separator that would allow uninterrupted traffic on the upper level while facilitating local movement below. The project, he said, would ease congestion without affecting nearby residential areas. "To prevent accidents and streamline traffic in this area, implementing the project is unavoidable," Sridhar said, stressing that it is purely in the public interest.

VOICE OF THE READER

Kudos to MCC for demolishing 70 illegal street stalls

Sir,

Three cheers to MCC officials and the Commissioner in particular for the bold decision to remove illegal occupation of the park under high tension power line in Vijayanagar, which was causing much nuisance to traffic, environment and cleanliness in the area (*Star of Mysore* dated Mar. 12).

Uncontrolled street food business is turning out to be a big challenge. Roadside vendors are breaking the law on five counts:

1. Most of them do business obstructing smooth pedestrian movement. Pedestrians have the first right over the footpath, but they are forced on to the busy roads endangering their safety.

2. Customers often park their vehicles beside these food carts, hindering smooth flow of traffic.

3. Street food is often cooked unhygienically. Food safety is of least concern. Vendors are least concerned about their personal cleanliness, cleanliness of utensils, ingredients and surroundings.

4. Though the Government has banned use of domestic LPG for commercial purpose, blatant use of domestic cylinders is quite common. Also, the negligent use of LPG cylinders in crowded footpaths must be a safety concern.

5. Environment is also affected by vendors' negligent handling of plastic and dumping of waste all around.

As a concerned citizen, I request the MCC Commissioner to keep the tempo up and remove the illegal encroachments of footpath in all other parts of the city. It is very essential to keep our tourist city clean and beautiful.

—A concerned citizen
Kuvempunagar
14.3.2026

Passing out parade on Mar. 29

Mysuru, Mar. 26 (KS)- The passing out parade of the 46th batch of trainee Sub-Inspectors (Civil), organised by the Karnataka Police Academy (KPA), will be held at 8 am on Mar. 29 at the KPA Parade Grounds in city.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will be the chief guest. Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwar will preside.

Director General and Inspector General of Police (DG&IGP) Dr. M.A. Saleem, Additional Director General of Police (Training) Devajyoti Ray, Director of KPA N. Vishnuvardhana and Deputy Director of KPA S.L. Chennabasavanna will be present on the occasion, according to a press release.

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(ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ)

ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕಾವೇರಿ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ ಇವರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.1.00 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.3.50 ಲಕ್ಷದ ಒಟ್ಟು 39 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅರ್ಹ ವರ್ಗದ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕಡೆಯ ದಿ: 01.04.2026 ಸಾ:5.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಬಿಡ್ಡು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 02.04.2026ರ ಸಾ:5.00 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/kppp ನಿಂದ ದಿ: 24.03.2026 ರಿಂದ ಡೌನ್ ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪತ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ. ಜಸಂಇ 94, ಎಂಬಿಐ 2017 ದಿನಾಂಕ:29.07.2017ರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ವಯ ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ ನಿಯಮ ಪಾಲಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಮೀಸಲು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ಸಕ್ಷಮ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಿಂದ ವಿತರಿಸಿರುವ RD ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯ ಜಾತಿ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ವಾಸಸ್ಥಳ ದೃಢೀಕರಣ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. RD ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಇಲ್ಲದ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯ ಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SPECIAL...

Mysore Airport Director P.V. Ushakumari speaks on women in airport management.

Charting NEW SKIES

When P.V. Ushakumari took charge as Director of Mysore Airport on Oct. 31, 2025, it marked a significant milestone for the Airport. She became the first woman to head the facility, bringing with her more than two decades of experience in aviation operations.

A native of Thiruvananthapuram, Ushakumari began her career as a Security Supervisor in the Operations Department at Thiruvananthapuram International Airport at a time when very few women were seen in operational roles. Over the years, she served at several airports, including Chennai International Airport, where she played a key role in establishing the Airport Operations Control Centre (AOCC).

Her leadership came to the fore during crises such as the 2015 Chennai floods and the 2018 Kerala floods, when she helped ensure smooth airport operations and passenger movement despite challenging conditions. She also coordinated closely with the Indian Air Force and Coast Guard during disaster-response efforts.

Before taking charge in Mysuru, she served as the Deputy General Manager and Head of Airside Operations at Kozhikode (Karipur) International Airport. Now leading Mysore Airport at a time when it is poised for expansion, Ushakumari speaks to *Star of Mysore* about her journey in aviation and the evolving role of women in the sector. Excerpts:

By B.C. Thimmaiah

Star of Mysore (SOM): Aviation infrastructure has long been seen as a male-dominated space. What was your journey like in rising to the position of Airport Director?

P.V. Ushakumari: I began my career about 25 years ago in airport operations. At that time, very few women were working in this field. In fact, I was the first woman security supervisor in the operations department at Thiruvananthapuram Airport.

I had to carry out runway inspections, drive vehicles at night and monitor aircraft movements to ensure safety and efficiency in daily operations.

Over the years, I worked at several airports and handled different types of emergencies. I also coordinated with multiple stakeholders and helped formulate standard operating procedures for smooth airport functioning. Every step came with its own challenges, but those challenges strengthened my resolve to prove that women can excel in aviation.

SOM: Over the years, have you seen a shift in the number and roles of women in airport management and aviation operations?

Ushakumari: Yes, there has definitely been a visible shift. When I started my career, women were very few in operations and technical roles. Today, we see many more women entering airport management, engineering, fire and safety services and other operational areas. Women are increasingly recognised for their competence, level-headed decision-making ability and operational excellence.

SOM: Is there formal training available specifically for women who want to enter aviation operations?

Ushakumari: There is no training exclusively meant for women. The training programmes are open to everyone. Women undergo the same courses and professional training as men. In aviation, gender equality is important. Anyone who wants to build a career in this field can apply for the relevant courses and gain the necessary qualifications and experience.

SOM: Mysore Airport is entering a major expansion phase. What does it mean to you personally to lead the airport at this time?

Ushakumari: It is both a matter of pride and responsibility. Incidentally, I became the first woman Director of Mysore Airport during this important phase of expansion. This gives me an opportunity to contribute to shaping the Mysore Airport's future. It is not just about building infrastructure. It is also about improving connectivity, creating new opportunities and setting high standards in airport operations.

Mysuru is a heritage city and there is great expectation among people regarding the Airport's development. The Government has been very supportive and the process of handing over land to the Airports Authority of India is now in its final stages.

> "Institutions should encourage women to take up technical training and leadership programmes. Career guidance initiatives and mentorship opportunities can also help young professionals understand the possibilities in aviation."

SOM: Did you have mentors or role models who influenced your aviation career?

Ushakumari: For me, the biggest motivation came from the challenges themselves. Each challenge pushed me to prove that women are capable of handling demanding roles such as runway inspections, emergency management and complex airport operations.

Today, I hope my journey can serve as a small example for young women who are considering careers in aviation.

SOM: Leadership roles come with immense responsibility. How have you balanced professional and personal life?

Ushakumari: Balancing work and personal life is always challenging, especially in aviation, where operations run 24 hours a day. I have managed it through discipline, proper planning and, most importantly, support from my family. My husband, Anil Dev, who is an Advocate in Thiruvananthapuram, has always been very supportive. That support has helped me manage both my professional and personal life.

SOM: What more should institutions like Airports Authority of India do to encourage women in technical and leadership roles?

Ushakumari: Institutions should encourage women to take up technical training and leadership programmes. Career guidance initiatives and mentorship opportunities can also help young professionals understand the possibilities in aviation. At Mysore Airport, we also conduct career guidance programmes for aviation students and encourage more girls to consider careers in this sector.

SOM: Finally, what message would you like to share with young women in Mysuru who dream of a career in aviation or engineering?

Ushakumari: My message is simple: Dream big and pursue your goals with determination. Aviation is a challenging field, but it is also very rewarding. Women are fully capable of excelling in operations, engineering and leadership roles. With dedication and continuous learning, young women can break barriers and make a meaningful contribution to the aviation sector.

Union Education Minister on two-day visit to Mysuru

Dharmendra Pradhan seeks Suttur Seer's blessings

Mysuru, Mar. 26 (BLU&VNS)- Union Minister for Education Dharmendra Pradhan, who is on a two-day visit to Mysuru to attend the events at Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) and Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), visited the Suttur Mutt, Mysuru branch, located at the foot of Chamundi Hill, this morning.

On his arrival, Dharmendra Pradhan was accorded a traditional welcome by Mutt priests. Later, he sought the blessings of Suttur Mutt Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, who, in turn, presented the Minister with a *Mysore Peta*, a garland, a fruit bowl and a statue of Goddess Chamundeshwari.

This was followed by a brief about JSS institutions by JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research (JSS AHER) Pro-Chancellor Dr. B. Suresh.

JSS Mahavidyapeetha Executive Secretary Dr. C.G. Betsurmath, JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research Vice-Chancellor Dr. H. Basavanagowdappa, JSS Science and Technology University (JSS STU) Vice-Chancellor Dr. A.N. Santosh Kumar, Karnataka State Law University (KSLU) Vice-Chancellor Prof. C. Basavaraju, KSOU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sharanappa V. Halse and others were present during the Minister's visit.

Dharmendra Pradhan arrived in Mysuru by road last night and stayed at the CIIL Guest House. After visiting Suttur Mutt today, the Union Minister for Education chaired a review meeting at CIIL at 10.30 am and is scheduled to take part in the three-day International Conference titled 'Ekatma Manav Darshan - Bharat's World View' at the KSOU Convocation Hall in Mukthagangothri campus at 4 pm, where he will deliver a special lecture.

Following this, the Minister will leave Mysuru at 7 pm by road to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru. He will board a flight at 10 pm and reach New Delhi at 1 am tomorrow (Mar. 27).

Suttur Mutt Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji presenting an idol of Goddess Chamundeshwari to Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan at the Suttur Mutt premises this morning. Also seen are** (from left) **JSS AHER Pro-Chancellor Dr. B. Suresh, JSS Mahavidyapeetha Executive Secretary Dr. C.G. Betsurmath and Karnataka State Law University Vice-Chancellor Prof. C. Basavaraju.

Closed-door review meeting at CIIL

On his return from Suttur Mutt, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan had a closed-door review meeting at Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) at 10.30 am. According to sources, the Union Minister held discussions on ongoing works and future projects of CIIL, as well as on works being taken up by the Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Kannada (CESCK).

CIIL Director Prof. Shailendra Mohan, Bharatiya Bhasha Samithi Chairman Chamu Krishna Shastry, Department of Higher Education, Govt. of India, Deputy Secretary Shreyansh Mohan, Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Kannada Project Director Prof. N.M. Talawar and other officials were present during the meeting.

Purna Chetana students present their book to Education Minister

Mysuru, Mar. 26 (BCT)- Four students of Purna Chetana Public School in Mysuru today met Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and presented their book *'Paat Shaala - Jeevan Yatra'* showcasing the school's student-led learning initiatives.

The students, Toshan (Grade 5), Mahesh (Grade 8), and Suhas and Suditi (Grade 10), handed over the book to the Minister. The publication contains 189 articles written entirely by students, reflecting their ideas, experiences and creativity.

The book was earlier released by noted writer late Dr. S.L. Bhyrappa and appreciated by dignitaries, including Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

Pradhan, who is in city, appreciated the initiative, stating that such activities align with the National Education Policy (NEP) and help develop 21st-century skills among students.

School CEO B. Darshan Raj, who accompanied the students, said the Minister's appreciation had boosted the students' confidence and motivation.

DECODING MYTHOLOGY

Dr. Devdutt Pattanaik - Author, Speaker, Illustrator, Mythologist

The hook-swinging rituals of India

It is important to remind ourselves that all Hindu festivals and rituals do not have Vedic claims. In fact, most practices in different parts of India are of local origin with no doctrinal basis, probably rooted to old tribal practices. Hook swinging is a case in point.

Across India there are festivals where men and sometimes women do hook swinging. Here, an iron hook is passed through the back of the person and they are hung from a pole that either rotates around a pillar or is attached to a pillar of a cart that is pulled by buffaloes. This is not acrobatics. The person performing the ritual fasts for many days, remains celibate, isolated in the temple usually, surviving only on water, preparing himself for the ceremony which connects him to the gods.

This is seen in Bengal, it is seen in Maharashtra, it is seen in Karnataka. It is known as Charak Puja in Bengal, Bagad in Maharashtra and Siddhi in Karnataka. But there are variations here.

The Charak Puja from the word Chakra is seen in Bengal and it involves ascetic practices where for one month the men who perform these rituals and other men are identified as Shiva for a year and are even venerated by Brahmins as being the embodiments of Shiva. This may have some Buddhist roots.

In the Deccan region, similar rituals are linked to the goddess. Wherever there is a goddess association or a temple association, there is often a buffalo sacrificed to the goddess. The buffalo has to be slaughtered in a single swoop of the knife or the axe and the blood offered to the deity. While the hook swinging ritual is done to make the goddess happy who enjoys other painful rituals such as piercing the tongue and cheek with iron rods or walking on fire or walking on sharp objects or lying on a sharp bed.

These rituals which gather the local agricultural community are said to make the earth happy may have agricultural roots. Some people have argued that this is only performed by low-caste communities and is done deliberately to oppress them but this kind of Marxist reading has been challenged by communities who practice it to see it as a way of pleasing the goddess.

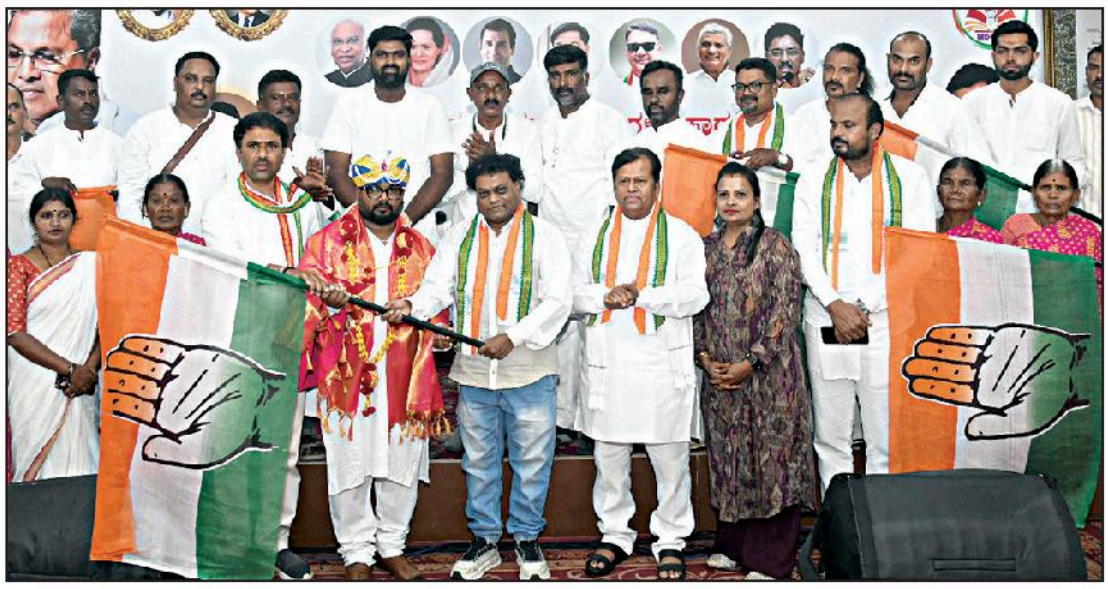
Violent rituals are often seen in agrarian communities as a form of atonement and appeasement as they are very aware that the agricultural activity is violence against nature but necessary for the establishment of culture. These rituals are supposed to make the goddess happy, calm her down so that she doesn't attack the village with epidemics and disease.

We know from Ashoka and edicts that communities had Samaj festivals where people gathered. These were fairs and carnivals where they were singing, dancing, animal sacrifice and rituals like hook-swinging, fire walking. Ashoka seems to not like it perhaps because it involved violence.

The British also tried to ban it. Laws were used to classify all such subaltern rituals (including fire-walking, trance) as superstitious and all things elite (prayer, chanting and singing) as religious. However, we find it survives in post-Buddhist Bengal as well as in the agricultural belt of the Deccan region indicating its widespread popularity.

devdutt@devdutt.com

Lyrics and music are must to highlight Gods: Sadhu Kokila



Mysuru, Mar. 26 (MK&BS)- KPCC Literary and Cultural Committee President and actor, music director Sadhu Kokila has said that literature and music has its roots in Mysuru that is popular as the Cultural Capital, from where it spreads across the State.

He was speaking after handing over Congress Party flag to Nagesh Kandegala, the Mysuru District President of KPCC Literary and Cultural Committee, at the party office in city on Monday.

Sadhu Kokila said, be it any Government or platform, music and lyrics is significant in highlighting Gods. Hence, the artistes are described as Gandharva, a musician with a soft personality.

Describing it as a matter of pride to unveil the Literary and Cultural Committee as its State President, Sadhu Kokila said, it is only Congress that duly recognises the artistes irrespective of classes. Like the Kannada adage *Doorada Betta Kannige Nunnage*, the life of an artiste looks good only when we see it from a farther distance.

Former Minister Kote M. Shivanna, District Rural Congress Committee President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar, General Secretary Shivaprasad, Vice-Presidents of Literary and Cultural Committee Ganesh Bhat and Mahadeva Swamy, General Secretary Ravikumar, former Academic Council Member of Mysore University Hedathale Manjunath and others were present.

UoM Kickboxing team for All India Women's League

The University of Mysore (UoM) Kickboxing team delivered an outstanding performance at the Khelo India Kickboxing Asmita Women's League (South Zonal) Championship-2026 held at Koramangala Indoor Stadium in Bengaluru from Mar.5 to 8. The team secured 2 Silver and 2 Bronze Medals in their respective weight categories and earned qualification for the All India Kickboxing Asmita Women's League. Seen are *(standing from left)* ***Bindhushree - Bronze Medal, Aishwarya - Outstanding Performance, Kusuma - Silver Medal, Dhruthi Uttam - Silver Medal and Soniya - Bronze Medal with*** *(sitting from left)* ***Jaswanth - Kickboxing Coach, Department of Physical Education (DPE), UoM and M.C. Ullas Gowda - All India Inter-University (AIU) Silver Medallist in Kickboxing, UoM.***

Cheap car sale racket busted

(Continued from page 1)

Based on the complaint, a case was registered at Bannur Police Station and an investigation was launched.

On Mar. 18, the Police arrested three accused: Ruman Sharif (26), a resident of Ghousianagar, Mujahid Pasha (37), a car dealer from Rajivnagar and Shahbuddin (25), a car mechanic from Lashkar Mohalla. Police seized eight cars from the accused, with an estimated total value of Rs. 1.10 crore.

Modus operandi

According to the SP, the accused approached car owners, claiming they would purchase vehicles by paying a small advance and promising to clear the remaining amount once the Registration Certificate (RC) was obtained. After taking possession of the vehicles, they allegedly resold them to other buyers at higher prices and collected money without providing documents to either the original owners or the new buyers.

A larger gang?

SP Baladandi said the original owners of the seized cars are yet to be traced and the Police suspect the involvement of a larger gang operating in Mysuru. Investigators are also verifying whether any of the vehicles were used in criminal activities.

He further said that a car mechanic or dealer operating in Bannimantap is suspected of identifying prospective buyers by promising high-end cars at low prices and connecting them through social media. Police are tracking his activities in connection with the illegal deals.

The arrests were made under the leadership of Additional Superintendent of Police L. Nagesh, Dy.SP G.S. Raghu, Bannur Police Inspector Satish, Sub-Inspector Sudarshan, ASI Satish and Head Constables Abdul Latif, N.A. Ashok and Bhaskar.

CARS SEIZED

HR-26-DA-5991	Audi A5
KA-19-ME-4591	Volkswagen Polo
KA-50-N-0577	Chevrolet Cruze
KA-06-MV-8903	Ford Eco Sport
KA-04-ML-1918	Hyundai 120 Asta
DL-2-CQ-1883	Audi AG A4
KA-06-N-7973	Volkswagen Vento
KA-18-P-0829	Volkswagen Polo

Hunsur jewellery store heist

Two accused still at large

8.32 kg of gold jewellery yet to be recovered

Mysuru, Mar. 26 (MK&BCT)- The Mysuru District Police are yet to arrest two more accused in the sensational robbery of 8.32 kg of gold jewellery worth over Rs. 10 crore from Sky Gold and Diamond Store in Hunsur on Dec. 28, 2025.

Police have already arrested the alleged mastermind, Pankaj Kumar alias Sattuwa and his associate Rishikesh Singh alias Patthal Singh from Bihar. Two other accused involved in the crime remain absconding.

Addressing reporters this morning, Mysuru Superintendent of Police Mallikarjun Baladandi said efforts are on to trace the remaining suspects and recover the stolen gold.

"We are searching for the other accused who have spread out and gone into hiding. Almost the entire 8.32 kg of stolen jewellery is yet to be recovered. The accused are from North India and have vanished without a trace, which has made the investigation challenging," the SP said.

He added that Pankaj Kumar had provided crucial information about his associates. Acting on these leads, the Police intensified their search operations, prompting the absconding accused to disperse and hide at different locations. "We are continuing the investigation despite several dead ends. It is only a matter of time before the remaining accused are traced and arrested," Baladandi said.

Sale of Govt. land raised in Assembly

No action in Government land grab bid in CM's hometown: MLA T.S. Srivatsa

Mysuru, Mar. 26 (VNS) - The State Government has failed to initiate action against officials involved in the attempts to grab Government land in Chief Minister's hometown of Mysuru, said Krishnaraja MLA T.S. Srivatsa.

Raising the issue in the Assembly yesterday, Srivatsa alleged that while the RTC document clearly mentioned that a 24.10-acre land located on Maharana Pratap Singh Road near Horse Park at the foot of Chamundi Hill belonged to the Government, a sale agreement to sell the property to 12 persons believed to be from Belagavi and Mumbai had been entered for Rs. 40 crore.

"Despite knowing the fact that the land belonged to the Government, the Sub-Registrar registered the sale agreement," he alleged, adding that the market value of the said property was about Rs. 900 crore.

No action against officials

"Soon after the issue of land grabbing was made public, the Sub-Registrar, on instructions from Deputy Commissioner, cancelled the sale agreement the very next day," said Srivatsa, who expressed shock, adding that while all 12 persons had signed the document during the registration, only two persons had signed the document during cancellation.

Siddaramaiah *Srivatsa*

Srivatsa also alleged that while there was no provision to make any transaction exceeding Rs. 2 lakh, the cancelled agreement mentioned that Rs. 4.75 crore advance was returned to the purchasers in cash. "While all these transactions took place in front of the officials, no action has been initiated against them," he said.

K.C. Layout Lake

Highlighting the attempts to grab 6.10-acre land at K.C. Layout, Srivatsa informed the Assembly that the encroachers, claiming ownership, had constructed a compound around the property, estimated to be Rs. 100 crore.

"Following this, I instructed the encroachers to demolish the compound wall within 48 hours, with a warning that I would personally initiate measures to bring down the compound wall. However, the encroachers demolished the compound within 24 hours," he added.

The MLA also highlighted the illegal vehicle parking on 38 gunta land belonging to the Department of Social Welfare, which was recently cleared by the officials and added that no action had been initiated against the person running the illegal parking facilities, which only highlights official apathy and negligence.

Bid to sell former MLC's property

MLA Srivatsa also highlighted the attempts to illegally sell 22 sites belonging to former MLC Siddaraju using a duplicate Aadhaar Card and other documents at the Mysuru West Sub Registrar Office.

"No action has been initiated against the guilty despite former MLC Siddaraju personally submitting a complaint to the Sub-Registrar. This only shows the failure of Sub-Registrar Srikanth, against whom no action has been initiated," he said.

"Unfortunately, there is a situation in Mysuru where no action is being initiated against persons involved in such illegal activities. While such a situation arises in the Chief Minister's hometown, what would be the situation elsewhere?" questioned MLA Srivatsa.

Replying to MLA Srivatsa, District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa said a departmental enquiry was in progress, following which action would be initiated.

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Ekatma Manav Darshan...

Guv inaugurates three-day International Academic Meet

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot seen offering floral tributes to the portraits of Goddess Saraswati and Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya to inaugurate Ekatma Manav Darshan, a three-day International Academic Conference held at KSOU Convocation Hall in city yesterday as Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, KSOU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sharanappa V. Halse and Prajna Pravah Karnataka Convener Dr. Pradeep Bharadwaj look on. Picture right shows a section of audience.

Mysuru, Mar. 26 (PM&BS)- Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot inaugurated Ekatma Manav Darshan, a three-day International Academic Conference, organised by Prajna Pravah Karnataka, in association with Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation, to commemorate 60 years of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's historic lectures on Ekatma Manav Darshan, at Karnataka State Open University (KSOU) Convocation Hall in the city yesterday.

Governor Gehlot, who greeted the gathering in Kannada, later switched over to Hindi, while delivering the inaugural address of the Conference. He described that the philosophy of Ekatma Manav Darshan, propagated by Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya, reflects Indian culture and the way of living.

In his lecture series, termed as historic, Deendayal Upadhyaya had presented a wide vista of knowledge 60 year back itself. His vision of life was an amalgamation of person, society and the nature and the importance of achieving a coordination among them, which ultimately aimed at the welfare of world and development of an individual, society, nation and the world, added Gehlot.

Elaborating further, Gehlot said, to delineate the vision of Upadhyaya, society is akin to a living being, which functions with the help of all the organs. Likewise, all the classes create a system, which is essential for the development of the society.

Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji said, the International Academic Conference is being organised to spread the cause of lecture series.

Deendayal Upadhyaya, who was orphaned at a young age, didn't lose his energy to live. As he grew up, he developed a conscience towards patriotism, ignoring the enduring pain. During his college days, Upadhyaya came in contact with RSS Founder Dr. Hedgewar and turned into a patriotic, contributing to RSS activities. Upadhyaya was a strong votary of progress in parallel with equality, cooperation and harmony with nature, through Ekatma Manav Darshan, said Swamiji.

VP opens virtually

Earlier, Vice-President of India C.P. Radhakrishnan, who virtually inaugurated the Conference, said the concept of Viksit Bharat-2047 stems from the vision of Ekatma Manav Darshan. Apart from financial and technological progress, it emphasises on overall development.

Prajna Pravah Karnataka Convener Dr. Pradeep Bharadwaj said, 423 delegates are participating among 640 from various parts of the country, who had registered for this Conference. Besides, 118 delegates will be presenting their papers.

Earlier, Governor Gehlot and other dignitaries offered floral tributes to the portraits of Goddess Saraswati and Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.

KSOU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sharanappa V. Halse delivered the introductory address.

Bharat Darshan Expo

Bharat Darshan, an exhibition organised as part of Ekatma Manav Darshan, was inaugurated by noted sculptor **Arun Yogiraj.** He said, when the world is reeling under crisis triggered by war, the only reason behind us leading a happy life is the indigenous tradition.

Conference opens amid row...

Uncertainty prevailed till the last minute of inauguration of Ekatma Manav Darshan Conference yesterday, as the State Higher Education Department had issued orders on the eve (Tuesday) to cancel the event being organised at KSOU campus, citing protocol violations.

However, the organisers of the Conference moved High Court and brought a stay order on Higher Education Department's instructions, which had categorically passed instructions not to interfere with the Conference. Ahead of the Conference, a controversy had erupted as the same issue had been discussed at the Legislative Council, where some of the Legislators had expressed their disappointment with KSOU VC Prof. Halse's attitude, for partnering with the private event.

This development has set the tongues wagging, over whether the very issue has opened doors for a new conflict between the State and Central Governments.

Higher Education Dept. order: Under probe, KSOU bank accounts to be freezed

Secretary of Higher Education Department has issued orders instructing various banks to freeze the bank accounts of Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), following *prima facie* financial irregularities, which is under inquiry.

In an order issued to the General Manager/ Branch Manager of State Bank of India, HDFC and Axis Banks on Mar. 24, it has been commonly stated that, 'in order to safeguard public funds and ensure integrity of the inquiry, you are hereby requested to freeze (Debit Freeze) all bank accounts of the University, including linked accounts until further orders. The credits may be permitted no change in account operations shall be allowed.'

Traffic signals: Police flayed for 'incomplete' RTI reply

Mysuru, Mar. 26 (GA&BS)- The City Police have drawn flak for not providing adequate reply to the information sought under Right To Information (RTI) Act, about the scientific reasons behind the recent installation of over 43 traffic signal lights at various circles and junctions in Mysuru.

Addressing media persons at Pathrakarthara Bhavan this morning, advocate A.M. Bhaskar said that in an RTI application dated Dec. 4, 2025, submitted to the offices of the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime and Traffic) and the DCP (Law and Order), who serves as the Public Information Officer (PIO), he had sought information on 14 points.

Advocate A.M. Bhaskar addressing a press meet in city this morning as Advocate Sachin and social activist Pradeep look on.

Queries and documents sought

The queries included details of Traffic Volume Survey conducted before installation of new traffic signals in 2025 at Agrahara Circle, RTO Circle, near Maharaja Hostel Circle, Crawford Hall Circle, Kalamandira Circle, K.D. Road, J.P. Nagar, Kuvempunagar and other traffic junctions.

He also sought certified copies of the Pedestrian Count Study Report, Accident Analysis Report for the past three years relating to the junctions, Delay and Queue Length Study Report, Road Geometry and Visibility Study Report and the IRC Guidelines Compliance Report.

In addition, Bhaskar requested details of public consultations, stakeholder meetings, engineering surveys and feasibility studies conducted by Traffic Engineering Wing, MCC, PWD and NHAI regarding installation of the signals.

He also sought copies of tender documents, complaints received and justification note or reasoning recorded by the authorities for selecting these locations for installing traffic signals.

Information denied

Bhaskar said the RTI application was later referred to the City Traffic ACP for further action. However, apart from providing statistics on accidents, including fatal and non-fatal cases reported near traffic signals and details of the authority that recommended the installation of the signals, the remaining queries were not answered. Most responses carried a common note stating that the information was "not available at this office."

"If the Police authorities fail to respond within 15 days, we will approach higher authorities, including the Home Minister. As a last resort, we will file a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the High Court," Bhaskar warned.

He added that if signals are to be installed, Police should hold consultations with District Administration, Mysuru City Corporation & Mysuru Development Authority.

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Love Mocktail - 3 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  Sampathige Savaal (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Akash (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Hayagrriva (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Kanchana 2 (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422 4241800

Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H)	(S-1)	10.00 am, 2.35 pm, 7.10 pm
	(S-4)	8.00 am, 12.35 pm, 5.10 pm, 9.45 pm
Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	(S-2)	10.25 am, 1.15 pm, 4.05 pm 7.00 pm, 10.00 pm
Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	(S-3)	10.00 am, 4.00 pm, 7.15 pm
Youth (Ta)	(S-3)	1.10 pm
Aadu 3 (Ma)	(S-3)	10.25 pm

MOVIES AT MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 2973519

Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H)	:	10.30 am, 1.40 pm, 3.10 pm 6.30 pm, 7.30 pm, 930 pm
Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	:	11.00 am, 1.15 pm, 4.05 pm, 6.05 pm
Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	:	12.15 pm, 3.15 pm, 6.15 pm
Aadu 3 (Ma)	:	9.15 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Dhurandhar The Revenge (H)	:	11.30 am, 12.00 pm, 12.45 pm 1.00 pm, 2.35 pm, 4.45 pm, 5.30 pm, 5.45 pm, 9.30 pm, 9.45 pm, 10.15 pm, 1.30 pm
Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	:	10.25 am, 1.25 pm, 4.05 pm 6.55 pm, 10.30 pm
Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	:	11.25 am, 4.15 pm, 7.20 pm
Youth (Ta)	:	7.25 pm
Aadu 3 (Ma)	:	10.20 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	:	9.25 am, 4.15 pm, 9.55 pm
Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	:	10.35 am, 1.25 pm, 7.25 pm
Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H)	:	12.35 pm, 1.00 pm, 5.20 pm, 5.45 pm, 10.05 pm, 10.15 pm, 10.30 pm
Aadu 3 (Ma)	:	6.30 pm

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	:	9.35 am, 12.45 pm, 6.50 pm
Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	:	1.55 am, 7.30 pm, 10.20 pm
Dhurandhar - The Revenge (H)	:	12.00 pm, 1.00 pm, 4.45 pm, 5.45 pm 9.30 pm, 10.00 pm, 10.30 pm
Youth (Ta)	:	3.55 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Love Mocktail - 3 (K)	:	10.10 am, 11.50 am, 7.25 pm
Dhurandhar The Revenge (H)	:	12.00 pm, 1.00 pm, 2.40 pm, 4.45 pm 5.45 pm, 9.30 pm, 10.15 pm, 10.30 pm
Ustaad Bhagat Singh (Te)	:	1.00 pm, 7.05 pm
Youth (Ta)	:	4.10 pm
Aadu 3 (Ma)	:	10.15 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

EVENTS TODAY (MARCH 26)

- **Akhila Bharata Sharana Sahitya Parishat, Mysuru City Unit:** Endowment Programme, retd. Professor Dr. N. Maheshwari delivers lecture on 'Vachanakartiyaralli Vaicharika Prajne,' Parishat Mysuru City Unit President Dr. Jayappa Honnali presides, Writer Prof. D.S. Sadashivamurthy and Jyotirgamaya Seva Trust Founder-President G. Madesh will be present, Jyotirgamaya Seva Trust, Free Girls Hostel, Ramanuja Road, **5 pm.**
- **Trayinyas Shrividya Foundation:** 17th Vasantha Navarathri Mahotsav, Sri Vidya Shodasha Durga Homa, Trayinyas, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 pm.**
- **Gowthama Education and Cultural Seva Trust, Mysuru:** Valedictory of Theatre and Folk Art Forms Training Camp-2026, social worker AHINDA Javarappa inaugurates, Kannada & Culture Joint Director V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy presides, Gowthama Trust President Krishnamurthy Talakadu will be present, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **5.30 pm.**
- **The Institution of Engineers-India (IEI), Mysuru, Department of Environmental Engineering, SJCE-JSSSTU, Mysuru and ParyAI Solutions Pvt. Ltd.:** World Water Day celebrations (Water and Gender - Where Water Flows, Equality Grow), Prof. H.N. Chanakya, former Faculty, IISc., Mysuru, chief guest, H. Ramesha, former Superintending Engineer, Water Resources Department, delivers keynote address, Dr. C. Nagaraju, Principal, Dean (E&T), SJCE, guest of honour, R. Arjun, Founder and Managing Director, ParyAI Solutions Pvt. Ltd., guest of honour, H.S. Suresh Babu, Chairman, IEI Mysuru, presides, S.P. Bhat Hall, IEI premises, JLB Road, **5.30 pm.**
- **Ganavisharada Bidaram Krishnappa's Sri Prasanna Seetharama Mandira:** 110th Ramanavami Annual Heritage Music Festival, President of the institution and philanthropist Dr. M. Jagannath Shenoy inaugurates, Grand Flute recital by Vid. Mysore V. Vamshidhar accompanied by Vidu. Charulatha Ramanujam on violin, Vid. H.L. Shivashankar Swamy on mridanga, Vid. Ranganatha Chakravarthy on ghata and Vid. Rajashekar on morching, Sri Prasanna Seetharama Mandira, N.S. Road, **6 pm.**
- **Sadvidya Educational Institutions, Mysuru:** Ramotsava Cultural Programme, Musical Evening - Veena Recital by Vidu. Dr. S.V. Sahana, accompanied by Vid. Arjun Kumar on mridanga, Institutions premises, N.S. Road, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust:** Sri Ramanavami Sangeethotsava, Karnatak Classical Music Concert by Vid. Sudarshan R. Iyengar, accompanied by Vidu. C.V. Shruthi on violin, Vid. S. Kumaraswamy on mridanga and Vid. V.S. Ramesh on morching, Sri Rama Mandira, Jayanagar, **6.30 pm.**
- **Sri Ganapathi Seva Mandali Trust, Ramakrishnanagar:** 7th Ramothsava, Devaranama by Haridasa Kainkarya Satsanga troupe, **6.30 pm;** Solo Talamaddale 'Kanaka Janaki' by Diwakara Hegde, Ananta Hegde Dantalige (Bhagavataru) and Anantha Padmanabha Phatak (maddale), Rajata Sabha Mantapa, Ganapathi Temple, I-Block, Ramakrishnanagar, **7 pm to 8.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (MARCH 27)

- **Trayinyas Shrividya Foundation:** 17th Vasantha Navarathri Mahotsav, Saptashathi Parayana, Lalithopakhyana Parayana, Shrichakrarchana, **7 am;** Sangrahamakha Nava Chandi Yaga, **10 am;** Purnahuti, Baliharana, Kumari, Suvasini, Vatuka Puja, Mahamangalarati, Ashtavadhana Seva, Prasda Viniyoga, Trayinyas, #8, 7th Main, 3rd Block, Jayalakshmipuram, **1 pm.**
- **Sadvidya Educational Institutions, Mysuru:** Ramotsava Cultural Programme, Gana Homa and Pavamana Homa, **8.30 am;** Purnahuti and Mahamangalarati, Prasada Viniyoga, **12 noon;** Music Feature 'Sri Rama Pattabhisheka' by Surabhi Ganakala Mandira, directed by Dr. Sukanya Prabhakar, Institutions premises, N.S. Road, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Rama Mandira, Jayanagar:** Sri Ramanavami, Harikathe by Vidu. Dr. Malini, **10 am to 1 pm;** Bhajans by Sri Sita Rama Bhajana Mandali, **6 pm to 8 pm;** Sri Vishnu Sahasranama Parayana Programme, Sri Rama Mandira, Jayanagar, **8.45 pm.**
- **JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research (JSS AHER):** Workshop on 'Innovation to Technology Transfer: Patent to Product and IPR Awareness Training Series, Sri Rajendra Auditorium, JSS College of Pharmacy, **10 am to 5 pm.**
- **Jagannatha Centre for Art and Culture (JCAC):** Architectural Exhibition featuring the works of celebrated South African architect Peter Rich titled 'Landscape Architecture - Architecture Landscape,' JCAC Vijayanagar 1st Stage, **10 am to 7 pm.**
- **Chinmaya Mission:** Sri Ramanavami Mahotsava, Satsang by Swamini Kashikananda, Bhajans, Ashtottara Archane, Mahamangalarati, Chinmaya Mission, Sri Rama Kshretra, Sarvajanika Hostel Road, Vidyaranyapuram, **11 am to 12.30 pm.**
- **Mysuru Book Clubs Charitable Trust:** Launch of the book 'Soul To The World,' Anthology of Poems by Kirthana Uthappa; Prof. Krishna Manavalli speaks about the book, The Green Hotel, Vinoba Road, **11.30 am.**
- **DoS in Philosophy, Swami Vivekananda Chair, Manasagangothri:** Valedictory of 2-day National Seminar on 'The Place of Hindu Philosophy in the World Thought'; Regional Institute of Education (RIE) Professor and Principal Prof. Pradyumna Kumar Sethy delivers valedictory address, retired Visiting Professor of Swami Vivekananda Chair Prof. V.N. Sheshagiri Rao presides, DoS in Philosophy Chairman and Professor Dr. M. Daniel and Swami Vivekananda Chair Visiting Professor Dr. S. Venkatesh will be present, EMRC, Manasagangothri, **4 pm.**
- **The Indian Institute of Educational Theatre (IIET) and Mysore English Theatre Forum (METF):** World Theatre Day celebrations, IIET premises, Hardwicke School Campus, JLB Road, **5.30 pm.**
- **Prajnana Mission:** Talk on 'Kriya Yoga, Sringeri Mutt, Agrahara, **6 pm to 8 pm.**
- **Ganavisharada Bidaram Krishnappa's Sri Prasanna Seetharama Mandira:** 110th Ramanavami Annual Heritage Music Festival, special musical feature 'Sunada Gana Sri Ramamrutha Paana' by all-women ensemble consisting of 14 senior artistes, conceptualised and directed by Guru, Sangeetha Vidushi, G.N. Nagamani Srinath, Sri Prasanna Seetharama Mandira, N.S. Road, **6.15 pm.**
- **Sri Ganapathi Seva Mandali Trust, Ramakrishnanagar:** 7th Ramothsava, Devaranama by Vid. Bellary M. Raghavendra, accompanied by Vid. Shivashankar Swamy on mridanga, Vid. Tumkur Yashaswee on violin, Vid. Nagaraj on tabla and Vid. H.L. Ananthakrishna Swamy on rhythm pad, **6.30 pm to 8.30 pm;** Felicitation to spiritual writer L.N. Shastry, Rajata Sabha Mantapa, Ganapathi Temple, I-Block, Ramakrishnanagar, **7 pm.**
- **Sri Ramabhyudhaya Sabha Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** 136th year Sri Ramothsava Sangeethothsava-2026, Classical Music by Vidu. Sooryagayathri & Party, Smt. Alammana Choultry, Srirampet, **6.30 pm to 9 pm.**
- **Sri Rama Seva Mandali:** 73rd Annual Sri Ramotsava, Layanada Taranga Sangeetha by Vid. Dr. M.R. Hanumantaraju and troupe, Sri Avani Shankara Mutt, 4th Main Road, 9th Cross, Vidyaranyapuram, **6.30 pm.**

Ra-Ga Amrutham at JCAC on Apr. 26

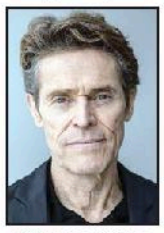
Ranjani & Gayatri

Mysuru, Mar. 26- Ra-Ga Amrutham, a celestial evening with Live-in Concert by *Padma Shri* Ranjani & Gayatri has been organised at Jagannatha Centre for Art and Culture (JCAC) in Vijayanagar 1st Stage on **Apr. 26 from 6 pm.**

For details, contact Mob: 78990-33303, according to a press release from JCAC.

World Theatre Day

Mysuru, Mar. 26- The Indian Institute of Educational Theatre (IIET), in association with the Mysore English Theatre Forum (METF), will celebrate World Theatre Day 2026 tomorrow (Mar. 27) at 5.30 pm at the IIET premises, Hardwicke School Campus, JLB Road, Mysuru. Observed worldwide, World Theatre Day highlights the importance of theatre as a medium of artistic expression and social reflection. This year's event features a special focus on noted actor Willem Dafoe, whose World Theatre Day message will be presented during the event.



Willem Dafoe

The evening will include a talk on Willem Dafoe by Prof. Krishnaprasad, followed by a reading of the official message by Kitty Mandanna. A coordinated play reading led by Shashidhara Dongre will showcase collaborative theatre practice. Amit Reddy will deliver a special address on the relevance of theatre in today's society. Additionally, an English play reading coordinated by Nima Manjrekar will add to the programme's diversity.

For details, call: 96868-92255.

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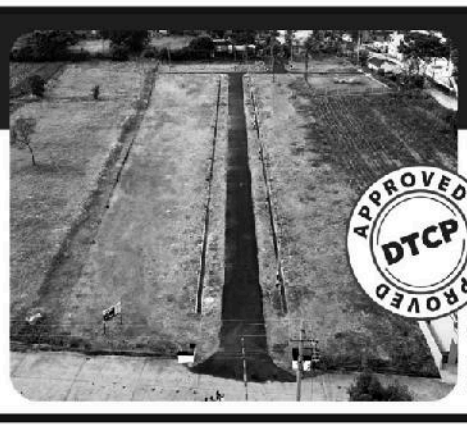

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